Committee for Homosexual Freedom (San Francisco) Collection, 1969-1980
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Marc LaRocque
ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
909 West Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90007
(213) 821-2771
askone@usc.edu
URL: http://one.usc.edu
The Committee for Homosexual Freedom (CHF) was a radical gay and lesbian rights organization founded in San Francisco in April 1969 by gay activists Leo E. Laurence and Gayle Whittington. Both were fired by their employers (respectively, a radio station and a freight company, State Steamship Line) after a photo of them embracing was published by the countercultural newspaper the Berkeley Barb. The CHF organized public protests in San Francisco against State Steamship Line, then went on to introduce a "declaration of policy concerning sexual freedom and homosexual employment rights" as a San Francisco municipal ballot measure that, if passed, would have banned discrimination in employment on the basis of sexual orientation.